THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION
NINETY-SIXTH
ANNUAL REPORT
1982

THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

Ontario

The Niagara Parks Commission Aims and Objectives

The Ontario Legislature passed the Niagara Falls Parks Act on March 30, 1885 which provided for the formation of The Niagara Parks Commission.

From that time The Niagara Parks Commission has had a unique and exciting history. An original "acorn" of a mere 62.2 hectares, is now a mighty "oak" that encompasses slightly more than 1130 hectares along the 56 kilometres of the Niagara River. Included in this system today are historic sites, golf courses, a marina, campgrounds, swimming beaches, picnic areas, restaurants, gift shops, horticultural gardens and school, and many scenic attractions.

The Commission's goals are as follows:

1. To maintain, preserve and enhance the beauty and surroundings of the Canadian Niagara Falls and the Niagara River, from Fort Erie to Niagara-on-the-Lake.
2. To develop, operate and maintain a system of park and recreation areas, historic sites and educational facilities which complement the natural wonders of the Niagara Falls and the Niagara River, and which will facilitate and add to the visitor's enjoyment.
3. To provide those wishing to view and enjoy the splendor of Niagara Falls an opportunity to do so with ease.
4. To provide a broad range of educational opportunities for people in the fields of horticulture, geology, natural history, and the history of the Niagara Frontier.
5. To continually seek new methods and means for improving the visitor's experience when visiting the Falls area.
6. To encourage complementary uses of lands adjacent to the Parks System, and to work with other groups and agencies who have compatible interests in the Park area.
7. To insure a suitable first and/or last impression for the many millions of visitors to Ontario and Canada crossing the borders along the Niagara Frontier.
8. To encourage and promote the development of the tourism industry in Ontario and Canada.
9. To pursue the self-sustaining nature of the Parks System while recognizing the limitations of compatible and suitable revenue-producing facilities and the long range need for capital improvements.

The present Niagara Parks Commission is continuing the policy of Commissions of former years, namely a dedication to carry out a programme of preservation, restoration, commemoration, beautification and attraction for the enjoyment of the millions of yearly park visitors from the world over.

Since 1972, The Niagara Parks Commission has reported to the Minister of Natural Resources. In March of 1982, a new ministry was formed, The Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, and The Niagara Parks Commission now reports through this new Ministry.

Commissioners

James N. Allan, Chairman
Dunnville

Archie Katzman, Vice Chairman
St. Catharines

Harry J. Daniel, Q.C.
St. Catharines

Wilbert N. Dick
Niagara-on-the-Lake

Madeline Faiazza
Fort Erie

Kenneth R. Green
Simcoe

Robert H. Hamilton
Fort Erie

William J. Marshall
St. Catharines

Brian E. Merrett
Niagara Falls

Alice J. Pietz
Welland

Albin R. Rogala
Stoney Creek

Brian N. Sinclair, Q.C.
Niagara Falls

Donald R. Wilson
General Manager and Secretary

Cover Photo:
Oak Hall became the new Administration Headquarters of The Niagara Parks Commission in 1982. The Par 3 Golf Course continues to operate.

Members of The Niagara Parks Commission - 1982
Seated from left to right: Archie Katzman, Vice Chairman; James N. Allan, Chairman; Donald R. Wilson, Secretary and General Manager.
Standing from left to right: Albin R. Rogala; Harry J. Daniel, Q.C.; Alice J. Pietz; Kenneth R. Green; Wilbert N. Dick; Brian N. Sinclair, Q.C.; William J. Marshall; Madeline Faiazza; Brian E. Merrett; Robert H. Hamilton.

The Honourable
John B. Aird, O.C., Q.C., B.A., LL.D.
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario

May It Please Your Honour:

The undersigned respectfully
presents the annual report of
The Niagara Parks Commission for
the fiscal year ended October 31, 1982.

Reuben C. Baetz
Minister of Tourism and Recreation

THE
NIAGARA
PARKS
COMMISSION

Ontario

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To the Honourable Reuben C. Baetz
Minister of Tourism and Recreation

I take pleasure in submitting herewith the Ninety-sixth Annual Report of The Niagara Parks Commission covering the fiscal year ending October 31, 1982.

The policies of Ontario's Niagara Parks are directed by a twelve member Commission, namely the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and ten Commissioners.

On July 14, 1982 I had the honour of being re-appointed as Chairman, by Order-in-Council for three years. Mr. Albin R. Rogala of Hamilton, was also re-appointed, at the same time, as a provincial representative for a three year term. Mr. Kenneth R. Green of Simcoe was re-appointed, on June 9, 1982 for a three year term. Madeline Faiazza, Mayor of Fort Erie, was appointed for a one year term as a representative of the Town of Fort Erie. Brian E. Merrett, alderman of the City of Niagara Falls, was appointed for a one year term as the representative of that city. William J. Marshall, regional councillor for the Municipality of Niagara, was re-appointed for a one year term as the regional representative. Wilbert N. Dick, Lord Mayor of Niagara-on-the-Lake, was re-appointed as the representative for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

This year The Niagara Parks Commission ended its long association with The Ministry of Natural Resources and began a new one with the newly formed Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. We look forward to a pleasant association with this new ministry.

This year will be remembered financially as one in which the growth in revenue from Park operations slowed down considerably. Gross receipts from gift shops, restaurants and attractions increased 1.2% over 1981. This additional revenue was not sufficient to keep up with the rate of inflation. Attendance at most of our attractions, with the exception of the Greenhouse and Golf Courses, decreased slightly more than 4 percent. Cold, unseasonable summer weather, and difficult economic times had an impact.

James N. Allan, Chairman of The Niagara Parks Commission.

A number of capital works projects have been completed this year. Two projects that we are particularly proud of are the renovations of Oak Hall into the new headquarters of The Niagara Parks Commission, and a new Distribution Centre. We are particularly pleased that in the conversion of Oak Hall to a modern administrative headquarters, it still maintains its stately character. The new Distribution Centre will considerably improve processing and distribution of retail items.

A top priority of the Commission continues to be the improvement of transportation and parking in Queen Victoria Park. Progress appears to be underway in this area after several years of study.

In the pages of the Ninety-sixth Annual Report that follow, it is with pride that we outline the most recent accomplishments of The Niagara Parks Commission by departmental reports.

The Niagara Parks Commission has achieved a highly esteemed record of service to the travelling public. Our keen desire to maintain this fine reputation by providing the best possible facilities, services, and hospitality is a top priority of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted
The Niagara Parks Commission
James N. Allan,
Chairman

THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

Ontario

Weather and Attendance

The general economy and the weather play important roles in the financial achievement of The Niagara Parks Commission.

Although significant amounts of snow did not arrive until mid-January, cross-country skiing, particularly by groups, was most encouraging. An unseasonably cold Spring resulted in fewer visitors to our Park. Cooler weather in June did not help our attendance at park facilities. However, there was an exception in that both Niagara Parks Commission golf courses experienced a 12.5% increase in the number of golfers over 1981. Part of the reason for this might be that local people spent more of their vacation time closer to home this year. September and October were seasonable months.

Overall attendance at the attractions, golf courses and museums, as well as those facilities that are free, decreased 4.4%. Admittance at the Scenic Tunnels decreased 7.1% and the Niagara Spanish Aero Car showed a decrease of 8.1%.

The license plate survey, which was conducted in Queen Victoria Park during the summer months, indicated that 43.4% of the vehicles were from Canada and 56.6% were from the United States. These figures were comparable to the previous year.

Cross-country skiing is available at the Niagara Parks Commission Whirlpool Golf Complex during the winter.

ATTENDANCE - ATTRACTIONS, GOLF COURSES AND MUSEUMS

	1982	1981	INCREASE OR (DECREASE)
McFarland House	1,679	3,032	(1,353)
Whirlpool Golf Course	37,280	32,940	4,340
Niagara Spanish Aerocar	183,414	199,504	(16,090)
Maid of the Mist Incline Railway	603.502	645,903	(42,401)
Scenic Tunnel	679,907	731,952	(52,045)
Horseshoe Falls Incline Railway	785,287	837,377	(52,090)
Oak Hall Par 3 Golf Course	14,296	12,801	1,495
Oak Hall		6,226	(6,226)
Viewmobiles	122,089	145,403	(23,314)
Miller's Creek Campsite	9,102	7,704	1,398
Old Fort Erie	50,078	54,937	(4,859)
Old Fort Erie Educational Tours	1,870	2,591	(721)
Charles Daley Park	26,473	31,865	(5,392)
Greenhouse - Queen Victoria Park	422,603	361,000	61,603
Stoney Creek Battlefield House	11,655	11,522	133
	2,949,235	3,084,757	(135,522)

Vehicles Accommodated in Tolled Parking Lots

Table Rock Parking Lot	329,247	310,470	18,777
Rainbow Bridge Parking Lot "A"	19,580	22,780	(3,200)
Rainbow Bridge Parking Lot "B"	21,476	23,563	(2,087)
Greenhouse Parking Lot	11,159	4,336	6,823
	381,462	361,149	20,313

Note:
In 1982 Oak Hall was renovated and became the new Administration Building.

Chartered Bus Permits Issued

Year	Number of Permits
1982	7,079
1981	7,112
1980	7,450
1979	7,116
1978	5,488
1977	5,584
1976	6,021
1975	5,721
1974	4,920
1973	4,802
1972	3,681

Queen Victoria Park Monthly Traffic Counts

	1982	1981
April	300,000	309,857
May	368,087	429,525
June	458,225	538,984
July	778,421	816,363
August	728,018	737,845
September	431,825	450,376
October	314,377	332,277
	3,378,953	3,615,227

Queen Victoria Park
10-Year Vehicle Count

Year	Number of Vehicles
1982	3,378,953
1981	3,615,227
1980	3,442,784
1979	3,070,247
1978	2,801,208
1977	3,028,956
1976	3,228,098
1975	3,198,905
1974	3,287,770
1973	3,385,319
1972	3,360,876

Total Traffic Recorded in the Niagara Parks System
April 1 to October 31

Year	Number of Vehicles
1982	5,734,622
1981	5,700,732
1980	5,502,370
1979	5,263,695
1978	4,767,476
1977	5,155,317
1976	5,540,310
1975	5,495,143
1974	5,677,179
1973	6,056,326
1972	5,619,928

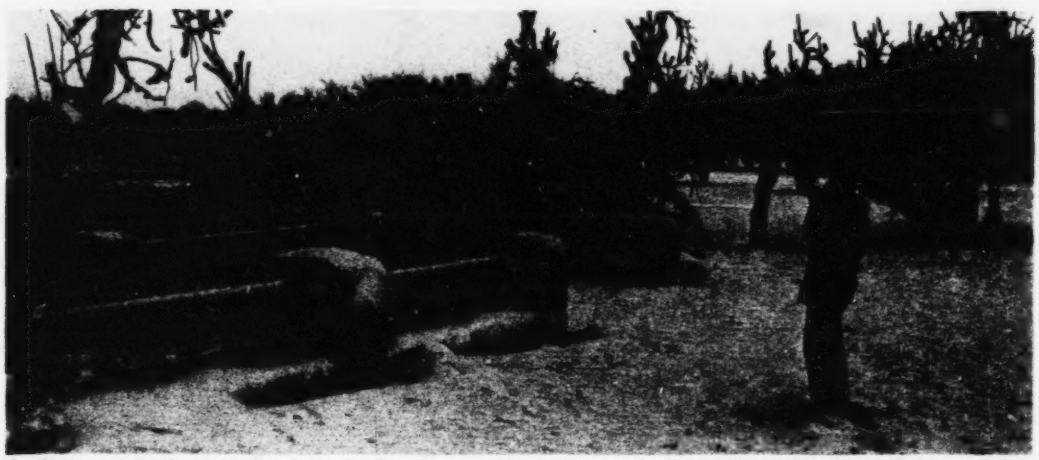
Vehicles Counted in Other Sections of The Niagara Parks Commission

	1982	1981	1980	1979
North Boulevard	1,719,902	1,481,641	1,476,106	1,655,247
South Boulevard	588,618	548,374	552,107	481,793
Stoney Creek	47,149	55,490	31,373	29,408

(There are no traffic counters at Charles Daley Park or Miller's Creek Park)

Queen Victoria Park
License Plate Survey

Percentage from	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977
CANADA	43.4	43.7	51.1	56.1	44.6	43.9
UNITED STATES	56.6	56.3	48.9	43.9	55.4	56.1



A photographer's paradise is to be found near the brink of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls at Table Rock House.

About 22,000 plants are transplanted each Spring to form the face of the Niagara Parks Commission Floral Clock.

Boat launching ramp along the Niagara River in Fort Erie.

Attractions Department

Several park facilities are operated by this department, such as the Table Rock Scenic Tunnels, Niagara Spanish Aero Car, Viewmobiles, Horseshoe and Maid of the Mist Incline Railways, Miller's Creek Campsite, upper Niagara Marina, and the Falls area parking lots. An average of 700,000 people annually visit the Scenic Tunnels which remain open throughout the year.

During the year a new Tour and Information Booth was built at the northern end of Queen Victoria Park, near the top of the Maid of the Mist incline. This booth is much larger than the previous one that was located in this area. As a result, enquiries were handled more efficiently and a greater supply of literature was on hand for visitors.

In 1982 a bulldozer was lowered to the Table Rock Scenic Tunnel Observation Plaza to remove a large amount of rock rubble, affording a much more attractive view of the Falls. The entire lower plaza area was also completely resurfaced in the fall due to the extensive damage done by ice over the past number of years.

While all other facilities did not show an increase in attendance, the Niagara Parks Package Tour increased more than 25%.

Although not operated by The Niagara Parks Commission, a new attraction, the "Engineerium", opened on a trial basis, in the former Toronto Power Plant located in Queen Victoria Park opposite the Greenhouse.

Table Rock House area is perhaps the most favorite spot for viewing the Canadian Horseshoe Falls.

Retail Operations Department

It is the Commission's policy to directly operate revenue producing facilities such as retail shops located within the Niagara Parks. The Retail Operations department generates a considerable percentage of the Commission's revenue and, therefore, represents a very important aspect of the total Park operation.

The North American and worldwide depressed economic climate in 1982 had its effect on the retail market, and was reflected in the fact that sales decreased 2.5% compared to 1981. The decrease in overseas tours, especially from the Orient, was significant, particularly during the months of May and June.

Tourists were selective in their purchases and although souvenir sales showed a modest increase, our non-souvenir gift lines showed a substantial decrease. This suggests that visitors still required a momento from their visit to the Falls but refrained from buying general gift items. The Commission continued its policy to offer for sale Canadian manufactured products when available. In 1982 almost 83% of the goods offered for sale in the Commission's retail shops were products of Canadian manufacturers.

The Retail department moved its Distribution Centre (warehouse) from the old I.R.C. building in Queen Victoria Park to a new location on Portage Road in the former Village of Chippawa. This new warehouse contains approximately 12,000 square feet.

A Niagara Parks Commission employee unpacks and places merchandise in the new Niagara Parks Commission Distribution Centre.

Two Niagara Parks Commission employees display Canadian made merchandise sold in the Niagara Parks system. Over 83% of the items sold in Niagara Parks Commission stores are Canadian products.

Food Services Department

Within The Niagara Parks Commission there are four fully-licensed dining facilities. Two of these are located in Queen Victoria Park — Table Rock Restaurant, at the brink of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls and the Victoria Park Dining Room, directly opposite the American Falls. The others include Queenston Heights Restaurant located on the Escarpment at Queenston in the shadow of Brock's Monument and the Whirlpool Restaurant located along the Niagara Parkway at the Whirlpool Golf Course.

Renovations to the Whirlpool Restaurant were completed in the spring, resulting in many favourable comments from the public. Gross receipts at this particular restaurant increased almost 14% over 1981.

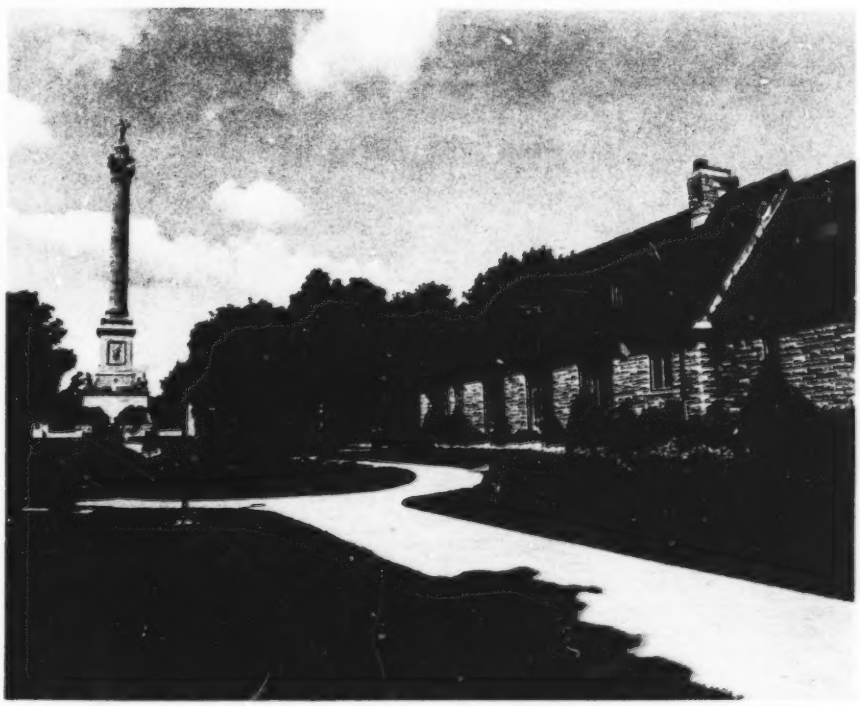
There was a re-organization of the management staff within the food services department this year. Harry Webb was promoted from manager of the Whirlpool Restaurant to manager of the Victoria Park Dining Complex. Jim Marr transferred from manager of the Table Rock Restaurant to manager of the Whirlpool Restaurant. Leslie Booth was promoted to manager of the Table Rock Restaurant and Carol Muscato was promoted from supervisor of Table Rock Restaurant to manager at Queenston Heights Restaurant.

For the first time in several years both Queenston Heights and Victoria Park Dining Rooms remained open until October 31st.

Banquet business at all Niagara Parks Commission restaurants continues to be popular especially during our "off season".

Total gross receipts in the food services department increased 4.4% over the previous year.

An excellent view of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls awaits patrons at Table Rock Restaurant.



Queenston Heights Restaurant in the shadow of Brock's Monument.

Golf Courses

Two public golf courses are operated by The Niagara Parks Commission — the 18 hole Whirlpool Golf Course and the smaller Par 3 Golf Course. Both courses opened in mid-April and closed in mid-November. Activity at both courses was brisk, with an increase in attendance of 12.5%. David Dargie was appointed seasonal manager of the Golf Shop.

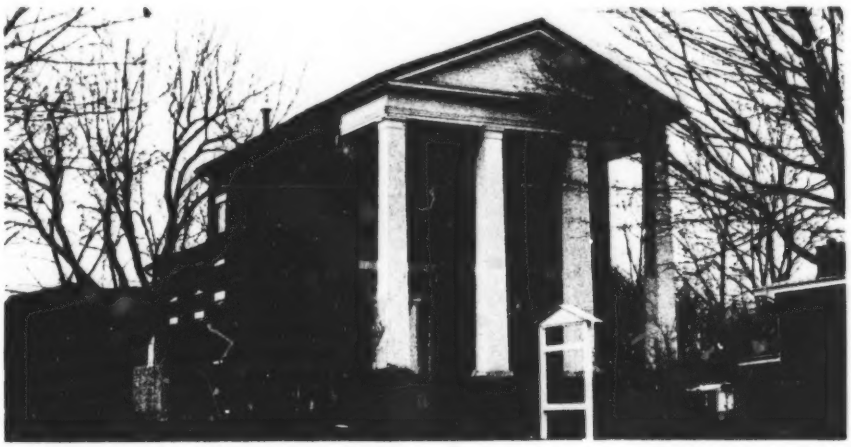
The 22nd Annual Men's Amateur Open was held on August 20th with 144 players. Winner of the Fred M. Cairns Trophy was Rick Fifield. In Flight B, winner of the Chirp Brenchley Trophy was Jim Brown.

The 20th Annual Ladies' Open was held on September 9th at the Whirlpool Course. Winner of the Lilian Allan Trophy was Jackie Fellinger.

The location of the Par 3 Golf Course pro shop was moved from Oak Hall to the Gate House as a result of major renovations to Oak Hall.

Golfing was as popular as ever this year at the Whirlpool Golf Course.

Historical Sites



Bertie Hall, in the town of Fort Erie, was purchased by The Niagara Parks Commission in 1982.

Since its inception in 1885, The Niagara Parks Commission has been involved in the history of the Canadian Niagara Frontier. The importance of history, as it relates to The Niagara Parks Commission, is emphasized by the co-operation given many organizations which are involved in this area of activity. It has long been the Commission's aim to provide facilities of historical significance where young and old can enjoy the experience of stepping back into the past.

The Niagara Parks Commission, in 1982, purchased a new historical building known as Bertie Hall, located on the Niagara Boulevard in the Town of Fort Erie.

Bertie Hall was constructed around 1826. Therefore, it is one of the oldest homes in the area and one of the most elaborate of its day. The Walls and partitions are built of brick and stone. The mansion was heated by four large elaborate Italian marble fireplaces, two on each floor. King Edward VII, when he was Prince of Wales, was entertained and slept at Bertie Hall in 1866. The building is now leased to the Town of Fort Erie, which in turn sub-let the building to the Mahoney Silver Jubilee Dollhouse Foundation.

The Niagara Parks Commission owns several other historic sites including Old Fort Erie, McFarland House (circa 1800) at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Battlefield House (circa 1800 -1840) in Stoney Creek, and administers historic Drummond Hill Cemetery in the City of Niagara Falls.

The Commission also owns the Willoughby Historical Museum on the south Parkway which is leased to the City of Niagara Falls and operated by volunteers from the Willoughby Historical Society.

Visitations at Battlefield House continue to grow, especially by school groups. Special programs on dyeing, spinning and weaving, have attracted much attention. In June a re-enactment of the Battle of Stoney Creek proved to be very popular.

At Old Fort Erie, infantry and artillery demonstrations by the barracks staff were carried out during the summer. The barracks staff took part in several special events such as the unveiling ceremony of an historic site plaque at Brigadier A.E. Cruikshank's homestead in Fort Erie and in July, took part in the retreat ceremony celebrating the 125th Birthday of the Town of Fort Erie.

Engineering Department

A regular staff of 48 people is employed in this department encompassing a wide variety of tradesmen — construction, electro-mechanical and roads being the major catagories. The appointment of Mr. Nicholas Murphy, P. Eng., as Assistant Superintendent of Engineering was a welcome addition to the senior staff.

The Engineering Department is responsible for the supervision and co-ordination of all capital projects, the continuing maintenance program for all Park's structures and roadways, and planning for the future, using outside consultants and contractors only as necessary.

Capital Construction

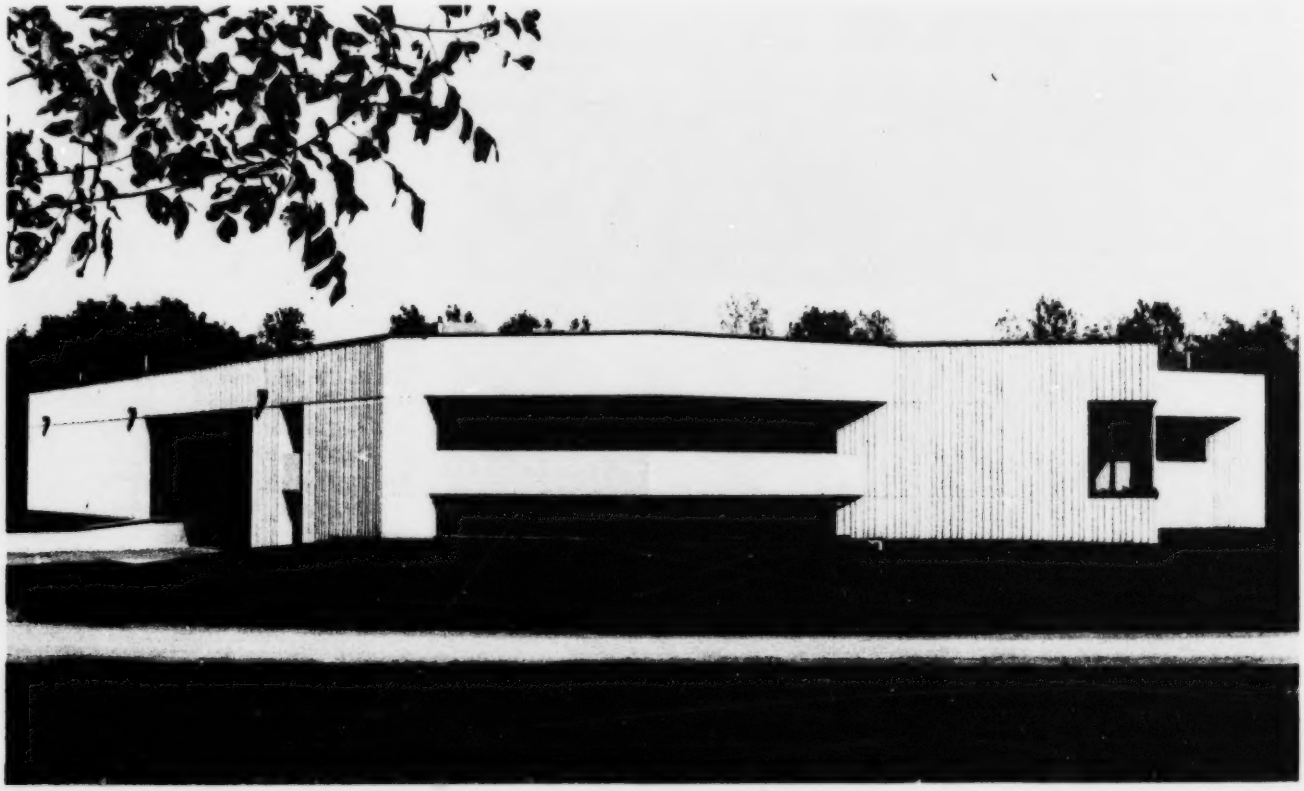
Many of the major 1982 projects are mentioned in other sections of this report and a complete list of capital projects is included. However, major projects included the conversion of Oak Hall to the Administrative Headquarters of the Commission, the construction of the new Distribution Centre on Portage Road, and the completion of renovations to the Whirlpool Golf Clubhouse.

Maintenance

In addition to maintaining buildings and other structures, this department is responsible for the maintenance of 56 kilometres of parkway from Fort Erie to Niagara-on-the-Lake (including asphalting, snowplowing and sanding) plus a system of service roads for residents along the Niagara River. Waterlines, streetlights, irrigation systems, storm and sanitary sewers are other maintenance areas.

Planning

Engineering staff members continue to be involved in co-operation and co-ordination with various municipal and tourist agencies concerned with traffic conditions in Queen Victoria Park and surrounding areas. For example, a traffic report by Lanmer-Fenco was completed for the City of Niagara Falls. The Commission was represented on the Co-ordination Board and various Technical Committees during the preparation of this report. In 1982, the Commission engaged the Urban Transportation and Development Corporation to prepare a report on the availability of Canadian-made peoplemover systems suitable for use in Queen Victoria Park.



Niagara Parks Commission Distribution Centre.

Statement of Capital Expenditures
for the year ended October 31, 1982

LAND			
Bertie Hall Property			$ 35,000
ROADWAYS, BRIDGES AND PARKING AREAS			
Penn Central Lands - 30 Car Parking Lot			25,271
POWER AND WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS			
Queen Victoria Park - Lighting of Crosswalks	$	23,321	
Greenhouse Parking Lot - Floodlighting		10,475	33,796
REVENUE PRODUCING FACILITIES			
Queenston Heights Restaurant - Floodlighting	$	4,658	
Whirlpool Restaurant - Renovations		193,787	
Whirlpool Store - Floodlighting		9,508	
Princess Elizabeth Building - New Roof		50,735	
Victoria Park Restaurant - Patio Garden Deck		47,597	
Oak Hall Par 3 - Golf Shop		39,200	
Viewmobile Booth - Maid of the Mist Incline		21,483	
Distribution Centre - New		1,067,102	1,434,070
OTHER PARK BUILDINGS			
Greenhouse - New Cold Frames	$	12,007	
Service Yards - Battery Storage		6,060	
Oak Hall - Administration Building		1,662,859	
King's Bridge Park Pavilion - Enclosed		13,407	
Bertie Hall		56,012	1,750,345
EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS			438,237
AUTOMOBILES AND TRUCKS			165,667
			$3,882,386

Police Department

Parks Police are responsible for the protection of the park properties and the visitors who use them.

The regular staff of this department consists of 19 members — a Chief of Police, W.J. Derbyshire, five corporals, nine constables, and four dispatchers. Complementing the force was a seasonal staff of 26 special constables. These persons assist with traffic control, parking, bus licensing, and dispatching duties.

Dan Diggon was appointed as Corporal (Training Officer), bringing with him thirteen years of experience from the Niagara Falls Police Department and Niagara Regional Police Force.

Seasonal staff this year received three days "in-service" training utilizing members of the Niagara Parks Police, Niagara Regional Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

A number of officers received re-certification in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation in 1982 and several officers successfully completed courses related to their vocation.

Five cruisers recorded over 328,893 kilometres to patrol Niagara Parks Commission property. There was a total of 168 prosecutions, 69 under the Niagara Parks Act, 43 under the Highway Traffic Act, 48 under the Liquor License Act, and 8 under the Compulsory Auto Insruance Act.

One hundred and forty-four major motor vehicle accidents were investigated, with two deaths resulting from separate accidents.

Constable William Bell received his twenty year service medal, making a total of ten members of the Niagara Parks Police who have received this award.

Although not conducted by The Niagara Parks Commission, a controlled hunt was carried out by The Ministry of Natural Resources on Navy Island, to reduce the deer population. The reduction of the deer population this year resulted in no reports of starvation due to over population which has been the case in previous years. The Niagara Parks Commission leases Navy Island from the Federal Government and is responsible for the policing of the island.

Safety

The Niagara Parks Commission continues to make a concerted effort to provide employees and visitors with a hazard-free environment. Controlling these hazards is the responsibility of the full time Safety and Training Officer.

Another year has passed free of any serious accident. Significant changes in the safety areas have resulted in supervisors becoming more attuned to dangers in the workplace.

The Niagara Parks Commission Employee's Safety Committee meet on a monthly basis. Job areas are reviewed for safe practices and for adequate personal protective equipment. Needs for improved equipment are also reviewed and recommendations given.

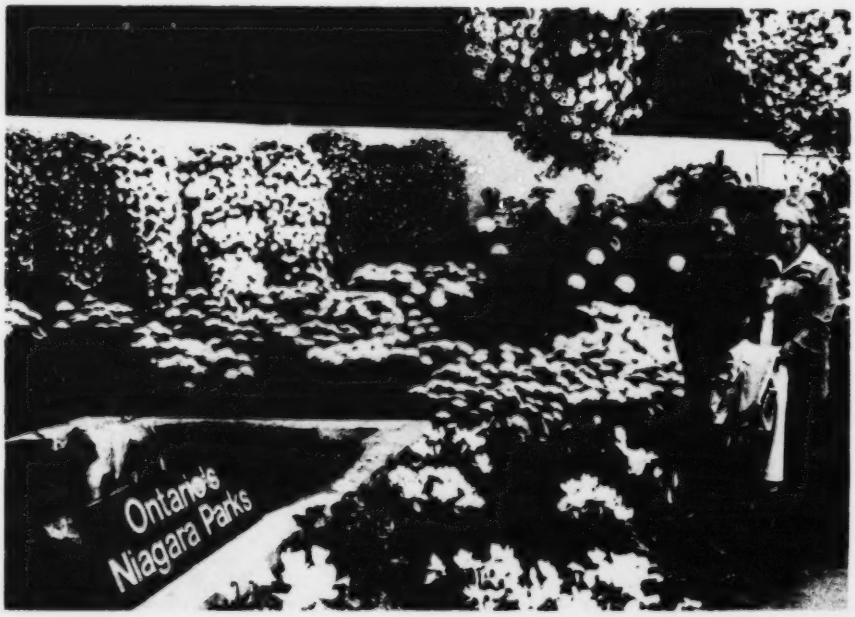
Contact is maintained with the Workmen's Compensation Board and all accident reports are evaluated.

Horticulture Department

"You and your staff are to be highly commended for all the thought and work which make your parks world famous".

This comment is typical of many received by The Niagara Parks Commission each year. It is most gratifying to receive letters of this nature which recognize the conscientious efforts of the horticultural department.

This department is responsible for the planting and maintenance of gardens and lawns on Commission property, which represents over 1130 hectares.



Two ladies admire the Niagara Parks Commission's annual chrysanthemum display viewed at the Annual Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

This year marked the second full year of operation of the new Greenhouse Garden Shop. Both attendance and gross receipts in the Garden Shop increased over previous years. Over 442,000 persons visited the Greenhouse free of charge, representing the largest number of visitors since the Greenhouse opened in 1946. The number of groups visiting the building also increased with the Greenhouse staff providing expert commentary.

Bedding plants and nursery stock for this area are grown in The Niagara Parks Commission greenhouses. In 1982 more than 119,000 bedding plants and 650 nursery stock shrubs were grown for use in the park. The Greenhouse also supplies cut flowers and potted plants to The Niagara Parks Commission restaurants.

The Niagara Parks Commission participated once again at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, with a floral display.

The horticulture department also completed a considerable amount of shoreline protection along the Niagara Parkway this year. Armour stone was put in place and then backfilled with heavy clay. This was done in an attempt to stabilize the bank and prevent the water from eroding and undermining the Niagara Parkway.

The responsibility of providing qualified lifeguards, to supervise swimming at both Dufferin Islands and King's Bridge Park, falls under the jurisdiction of this department. In 1982 there were 2 confirmed rescues and 138 first aid cases.

Nearly 1,000 people took advantage of nature walks conducted at the Niagara Glen and Whirlpool area. Besides conducting these tours, the naturalist checks on the condition of trails, steps and railings, and reports on vandalism. Vandalism in this area was greatly reduced in 1981.

The tree and landscape section of this department removed 405 dead or diseased trees of which 71 were diseased elms. Extensive tree pruning was conducted at the following locations: McFarland Point Park, Queenston Heights Park and the river bank from the

Over 500,000 daffodils herald the arrival of Spring in late May throughout Queen Victoria Park.

A visitor admires one of the many blooming bushes at the Centennial Lilac Garden near the world famous Floral Clock.

Taking photographs in the Niagara Parks Greenhouse is always a popular past-time.

Toronto Powerhouse to the Princess Elizabeth Building.

A special tree planting ceremony took place in Queen Victoria Park on April 24th, when a native Red Maple was donated and planted by District A-2 of Lions International, commemorating the International President's theme "People at Peace".

In September, Mr. William Hutton was transferred from the Engineering department to this department as Properties Manager. This department is now responsible for locating boundaries, establishing land ownership, deeds, property leases, issuing of excavation permits, etc.

Approval was given by the Commission to develop the first stage of a park, located on Niagara Parks Commission property, in the Town of Queenston. This park, to be known as Queenston Flats, consists of 6 hectares and will be developed over a number of years.

School of Horticulture

The Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture is located on the lower Niagara Parkway just north of the Whirlpool Golf Course. The grounds surrounding the School cover approximately 38 hectares and are attractively landscaped. The school campus serves as an important outdoor training laboratory in which students obtain practical work experience each day and enables them to apply and develop their practical horticultural skills.

During winter months, students in the three year course receive a comprehensive series of horticultural lectures.

Third year students work as full-time employees in the Horticulture Department of the Park

Peter Roy Boyce (left) won the James N. Allan landscape model award at this year's 40th Annual Graduation of the School of Horticulture. Admiring Mr. Boyce's work, from left to right are, Peter Boyce, D.R. Wilson, General Manager, R. Barnsley, Superintendent of the School of Horticulture and James N. Allan, Chairman of The Niagara Parks Commission.

System from April to September. During this period of time they rotate on a scheduled basis within the department acquiring additional practical skills.

The Fortieth graduation ceremonies took place at the school auditorium on March 27, 1982. Eight students graduated and received the Niagara Parks Commission Diploma in Horticulture. These graduates were:

Peter Roy Boyce
St. Catharines, Ontario
Peter Eric Joyce
Oakville, Ontario
David Paul McCullagh
Kilbride, Ontario
Brigitte Marut
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Johannes Merkies
Grand Bend, Ontario
Thomas William Spies
Kitchener, Ontario
Jennifer Sprague-Kuipers
Madoc, Ontario
Leslie Paul Van Dongen
Waterford, Ontario

The following awards were presented at these ceremonies:

General Proficiency
Jennifer Sprague-Kuipers
Botany
Thomas William Spies
Landscape Design
Jennifer Sprague-Kuipers
C.H. Henning Award Plant Identification
Thomas William Spies
William Holmes Memorial Award Arboriculture
Jennifer Sprague-Kuipers
James N. Allan Landscape Model Award
Peter Roy Boyce

Thirteen new students were enrolled in their first year of the three year course in 1982.

The greatest visual change at the School of Horticulture relates to the start of construction of a Visitor Reception Centre and a larger parking lot and road relocation. Construction in these areas began in September and completion is expected in the spring of 1983.

A $4,500 grant was received in 1982 from the Ontario Turf Research Foundation to investigate ways to combat the European chafer. The insect causes thousands of dollars damage each year in the surrounding area.

Personnel Department

An important function of this department is the processing of applications for seasonal employment. A total of 3,178 new applications were received this year: High school students - 1,089; University and College students - 510; and 1,579 non-student adults. This was the largest number of applications ever received. The number of seasonal employees as of July 24, 1982 was 1,173 with 243 regular employees.

Many regular Park employees took advantage of a policy whereby job-related courses can be taken at the Commission's expense. Thirty-three employees participated in various training courses.

Eleven employees, representing more than 312 years of service, retired during the November 1, 1981 to October 31, 1982 period. Cliff Anderson, foreman of mechanics was the longest serving employee with over 36 years service. There were 25 vacancies for regular employees which were filled this year.

A new Attendance Improvement Program was introduced for the 1982 calendar year.

There were two main features to the Program:

1. Employees who do not use any of their sick leave benefits under the Short-Term Sickness Plan during 1982 will be invited to dine with a guest at one of the Commission's restaurants.
2. There will be competitions between groups of park employees in which winners will be eligible for either a cash prize or a trip for two.

One year collective agreements were consumated with The Ontario Public Service Employees Union representing park employees and park police.

Public Relations and Advertising Department

To accomplish the objective of communicating, the Public Relations department carries out a number of day to day activities. The department provides information by mail, telephone and personal contacts, prepares news releases and regular contact with the news media. Public speaking, co-ordination of photographic services, liaison with local public service and tourist-oriented organizations and conducting tours of the parks system are also important functions.

As in previous years, travel writers and both television and motion picture producers continued to find the Falls a fascinating subject.

Professional photographers view the Falls and surrounding gardens as ideal subject matter. Wedding photographers particularly enjoy photographing the events of that very important day at locations such as Oakes Garden Theatre or the School of Horticulture. There were at least eight wedding ceremonies in the parks of The Niagara Parks Commission this year.

An International Monetary Fund Conference was held in nearby Toronto and as a result a number of dignitaries visited the Falls. They included Prime Minister Robert Muldoon of New Zealand, Finance Minister of France, J.P. Cot, and the Deputy Prime Minister of India, Pranab Kumar Mukherjwe.

The Niagara Parks Commission had as visitors at other times of the year, Sean P. Kennan, Ambas-

Under Secretary of State for Thailand, Phisan Moolasartsathorn, presents a small momento of his visit, to Mr. James N. Allan, Chairman of The Niagara Parks Commission.

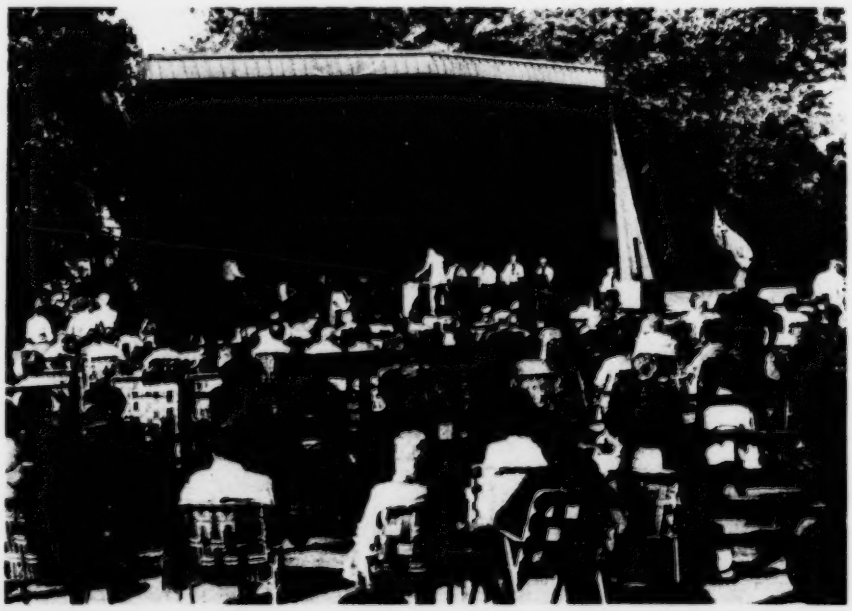
booths located throughout our park system. An individual was also employed to compile informational statistics based on the cars and motorcoaches visiting Queen Victoria Park. This study indicated that 43.4% of the vehicles counted in Queen Victoria Park were from Canada and the remaining 56.6% were from the United States. A winter market survey was also carried out resulting in a clearer understanding of where park visitors come from during the winter months.

The Commission, in 1982, commissioned The Niagara Falls Heritage Foundation, under the direction of George Seibel, to begin research and writing of the history of The Niagara Parks Commission for release in 1985. The Commission will celebrate its Centennial in 1985.

sador of Ireland to Canada, Phisan Moolasartsathorn, Under-secretary of State for Thailand, Mrs. E. Hill-Thibou, Minister of Tourism for Antigua, and a Bundesrat delegation from the Federal Republic of Germany.

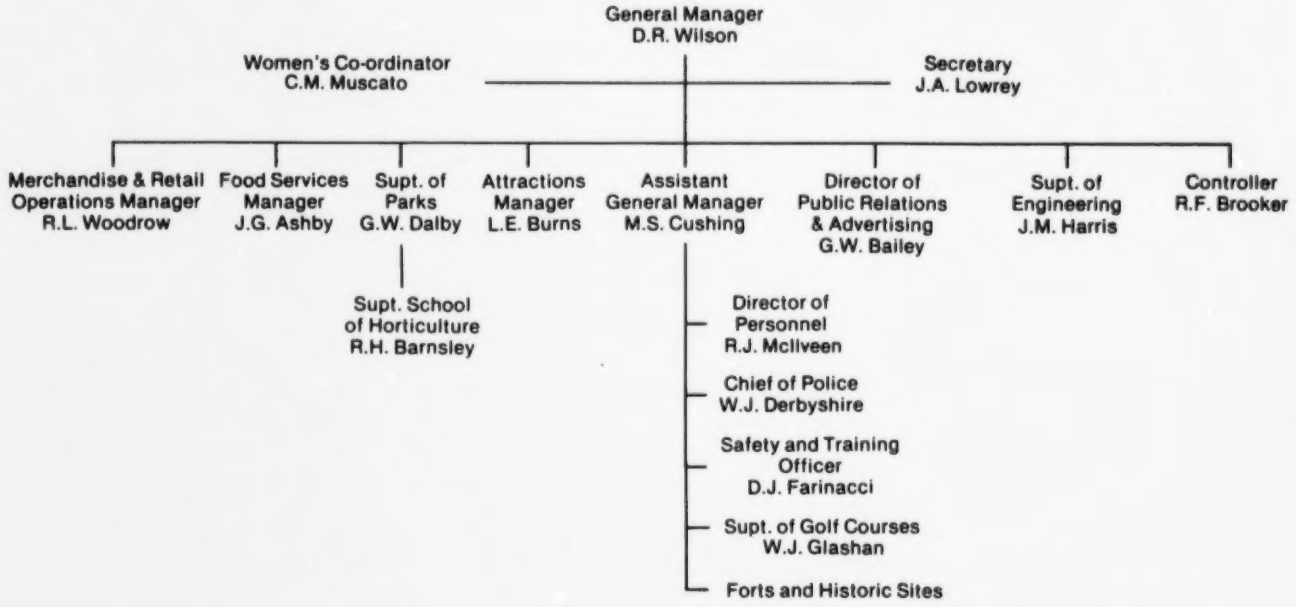
At the Annual Staff Picnic, held at Queenston Heights Park two Niagara Parks Commission employees were honoured. Eileen Schultz, retail management trainee, was chosen Regular Employee of the Year and Elsie Potter, hostess/waitress at Queenston Heights Restaurant, was chosen as the Seasonal Employee of the Year. Miss Potter has worked as a seasonal employee for fifty-two years.

As in the past, this department employed seasonal employees to operate the various information



Fred Willett and his Concert Band performed for the 30th summer season at Queenston Heights Park.

The Niagara Parks Commission Administrative Organization Chart



Accounting Department

The Commission's records and financial transactions are maintained by this department. They include such duties as accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, purchasing, and the operation of a central cash office.

In 1982, five chartered banks were asked to present a proposal/quotation on the banking services required by The Niagara Parks Commission.

Detailed financial statements are provided at the end of this report.

Auditors' Report

To The Niagara Parks Commission and to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

I have examined the balance sheet of The Niagara Parks Commission as at October 31, 1982 and the statements of equity, income and expenditure and changes in financial position for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Commission as at October 31, 1982 and the results of its operations and changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

D.F. Archer C.A.
Provincial Auditor

Toronto, Ontario
January 25, 1983

Index to Financial Statements

For the year ended October 31, 1982.

Statements

1. Balance Sheet
2. Statement of Equity
3. Statement of Income and Expenditure
4. Statement of Changes in Financial Position

Schedules

5. Gift Shops, Restaurants and Attractions Schedule of Income and Expenditure
6. Schedule of Maintenance Expenses
7. Schedule of Administrative and General Expenses

THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

Ontario

Balance Sheet
as at October 31, 1982

STATEMENT 1

	1982 $	1981 $
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	6,391,617	6,175,573
Accounts receivable		
Ontario Hydro	395,719	354,064
Sundry	285,120	262,433
Inventories - note 1(a)		
Saleable merchandise	1,688,376	1,882,032
Maintenance and other supplies	177,801	174,070
Prepaid expenses	152,006	24,910
	9,090,639	8,873,082
INVESTMENT OF FUNDS FOR FUTURE CAPITAL PROGRAM - note 3	6,500,000	4,700,000
FIXED - notes 1(b), 2 and 4		
Land	4,755,601	4,720,601
Buildings, roadways and structures	24,058,095	20,821,260
Equipment and furnishings	3,753,529	3,388,454
Automobiles and trucks	787,589	684,501
	33,354,814	29,614,816
Accumulated depreciation	11,772,575	10,836,360
	21,582,239	18,778,456
Capital works in progress	707,376	812,851
	22,289,615	19,591,307
	37,880,254	33,164,389
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	1,867,796	1,118,607
Accrued payroll	289,949	234,929
	2,157,745	1,353,536
LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS		
Mortgage payable - note 4	28,000	30,000
EQUITY		
EQUITY (Statement 2)	35,694,509	31,780,853
	37,880,254	33,164,389

On behalf of the Commission:

James N. Allan
Chairman

Archie Katzman
Vice-Chairman

Statement of Equity
for the year ended October 31, 1982

STATEMENT 2

	1982 $	1981 $
EQUITY, BEGINNING OF YEAR	31,780,853	26,901,527
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR (Statement 3)	3,913,656	4,879,326
EQUITY, END OF YEAR	35,694,509	31,780,853

Statement of Income and Expenditure
for the year ended October 31, 1982

STATEMENT 3

	1982 $	1981 $
INCOME		
Water rentals	2,974,963	2,649,877
Privileges, tolls and fees	516,187	529,375
Net income from gift shops, restaurants and attractions, exclusive of any portion of the administrative overhead of the Commission (Schedule5)	6,784,149	7,215,330
Sundry income	43,234	39,133
Profit on disposal of fixed assets - net	37,931	12,053
Premium on United States funds - net	137,641	116,396
Interest on bank deposits	1,438,674	1,069,936
	11,932,779	11,632,100
EXPENDITURE		
Maintenance expenses (Schedule 6)	5,720,280	4,781,100
Administrative and general expenses (Schedule 7)	1,548,396	1,247,703
Advertising and public relations	238,256	242,978
Bank loan and mortgage interest	1,647	15,851
	7,508,579	6,287,632
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR BEFORE DEPRECIATION ON NON-INCOME PRODUCING ASSETS	4,424,200	5,344,468
DEPRECIATION OF NON-INCOME PRODUCING ASSETS	510,544	465,142
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR	3,913,656	4,879,326

THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

Ontario

Statement of Changes in Financial Position
for the year ended October 31, 1982

STATEMENT 4

	1982 $	1981 $
FUNDS WERE PROVIDED BY		
Operations		
Excess of income over expenditure for the year	3,913,656	4,879,326
Charge against income not requiring an outlay of funds - depreciation	1,066,232	966,876
Profit on disposal of fixed assets - net	(37,931)	(12,053)
	4,941,957	5,834,149
Sale of fixed assets	50,300	34,851
	4,992,257	5,869,000
FUNDS WERE USED FOR		
Purchase of fixed assets and capital works in progress	3,776,909	2,765,636
Payments on long-term indebtedness Mortgage payable	2,000	2,000
Investment of funds for future capital program	1,800,000	250,000
	5,578,909	3,017,636
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN WORKING CAPITAL	(586,652)	2,851,364
WORKING CAPITAL, BEGINNING OF YEAR	7,519,546	4,668,182
WORKING CAPITAL, END OF YEAR	6,932,894	7,519,546

Gift Shops, Restaurants and Attractions
for the year ended October 31, 1982

SCHEDULE 5

	1982 $	1981 $
INCOME		
Souvenirs, china and post cards	8,604,266	8,866,995
Food and refreshments	6,104,873	5,872,598
Beer, liquor and wine	841,982	799,307
Confectionery and tobacco	326,501	294,453
Fares, admissions and rentals	4,607,088	4,406,662
Sundry	424,888	429,301
	20,909,598	20,669,316
COST OF GOODS SOLD		
Souvenirs, china and post cards	4,073,111	4,181,727
Food and refreshments	1,729,743	1,656,737
Beer, liquor and wine	254,963	236,260
Confectionery and tobacco	192,270	165,982
Sundry	209,566	232,687
	6,459,653	6,473,393
GROSS PROFIT	14,449,945	14,195,923
OPERATING EXPENDITURE		
Salaries and wages	3,983,800	3,651,871
Employee benefits	310,154	298,572
Fuel, power, water and laundry	411,055	354,717
General expenses	729,207	707,295
Maintenance of buildings, equipment and golf courses	1,062,779	943,531
Grants in lieu of municipal taxes	254,321	231,445
Warehouse expense	358,792	291,428
	7,110,108	6,478,859
NET INCOME BEFORE DEPRECIATION	7,339,837	7,717,064
DEPRECIATION OF BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT	555,688	501,734
NET INCOME EXCLUSIVE OF ANY PORTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD OF THE COMMISSION	6,784,149	7,215,330

THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

Ontario

Schedule of Maintenance Expenses
for the year ended October 31, 1982

SCHEDULE 6

	1982 $	1981 $
MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS AND FACILITIES		
Niagara-on-the-Lake to Queenston	221,665	164,434
Queenston Heights Park	223,553	213,706
Queenston to Niagara Falls	506,285	358,071
Queen Victoria Park	1,363,606	1,249,528
Queen Victoria Park to Black Creek	238,415	120,696
Black Creek to Fort Erie	158,763	129,676
Town of Fort Erie	204,508	149,442
Stoney Creek Park	48,234	43,899
	2,965,029	2,429,452
UNDISTRIBUTED MAINTENANCE COSTS		
Horticulture Department		
School of Horticulture	404,095	373,094
Greenhouse	188,027	146,743
Tree Department	55,839	46,473
Other expenses	393,171	359,398
Trucks and automobiles	48,629	34,911
Service yards	178,804	135,454
	1,268,565	1,096,073
Engineering Department		
Equipment	39,228	25,433
Other expenses	706,972	578,145
	746,200	603,578
Police Department		
Salaries	582,885	510,063
Automobiles, employee benefits, uniforms and miscellaneous	157,601	141,934
	740,486	651,997
	5,720,280	4,781,100

Schedule of Administrative and General Expenses
for the year ended October 31, 1982

SCHEDULE 7

	1982 $	1981 $
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Administrative and office salaries	796,476	723,459
Commissioners' expenses	7,806	6,493
Office expense	66,529	54,692
Telephone	32,629	26,701
Travel expense	7,556	8,103
Employee benefits	150,007	183,073
	1,061,003	1,002,521
GENERAL EXPENSES		
Insurance - net	56,132	56,814
Legal fees	19,879	20,220
Audit fees	23,425	19,175
Pension and injury awards	20,172	20,172
Grants in lieu of municipal taxes - net	19,338	15,711
General expense	41,532	40,427
Expropriation expense - note 5	231,141	35,721
Special grants	75,774	36,942
	487,393	245,182
	1,548,396	1,247,703

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended October 31, 1982

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a)Inventories

Inventories of saleable merchandise are valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) and net realizable value.

(b)Fixed assets

All fixed assets are recorded at cost. Depreciation has been recorded on the straight-line method, using rates from 2 to 20 per cent for buildings, roadways and structures, from 10 to 50 per cent for equipment and furnishings and from 15 to 40 per cent for automobiles and trucks.

2. FIXED ASSETS

	1982		
	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value
	$	$	$
Land	4,755,601	-	4,755,601
Buildings, roadways and structures	24,058,095	8,938,812	15,119,283
Equipment and furnishings	3,753,529	2,291,827	1,461,702
Automobiles and trucks	787,589	541,936	245,653
	33,354,814	11,772,575	21,582,239

	1981		
	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value
	$	$	$
Land	4,720,601	-	4,720,601
Buildings, roadways and structures	20,821,260	8,298,107	12,523,153
Equipment and furnishings	3,388,454	2,029,741	1,358,713
Automobiles and trucks	684,501	508,512	175,989
	29,614,816	10,836,360	18,778,456

3. CAPITAL PROGRAM

The Commission has commenced initial work in connection with the development of a parking area and transit system to alleviate traffic problems in Queen Victoria Park. The total cost of this program, which will extend over a period of years, is estimated to be $10,000,000. As at October 31, 1982 $1,416,784 has been expended on the program (October 31, 1981 $1,308,921). The Commission has earmarked $6,500,000 which has been invested for the eventual use toward this capital program (October 31, 1981 $4,700,000). The funds are invested in short term bank deposits, however the annual allocation, if any, is determined independently of the interest earned.

4. MORTGAGE PAYABLE

The mortgage payable bears interest at 5 3/4% and requires annual principal payments of $2,000 until March 1, 1996. The mortgage is secured by land with a carrying value of $70,000.

5. EXPROPRIATION

The Commission settled the claim pending for compensation for lands expropriated by the Commission. The amount reflected in schedule 7 includes the legal expenses of both parties.

6. TRUST FUNDS

The Commission administers trust funds for the perpetual care of a cemetery plot at Drummond Hill Cemetery. As at October 31, 1982 these funds totalled $5,236 (October 31, 1981 $4,631). These funds are not included in the financial statements.

7. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

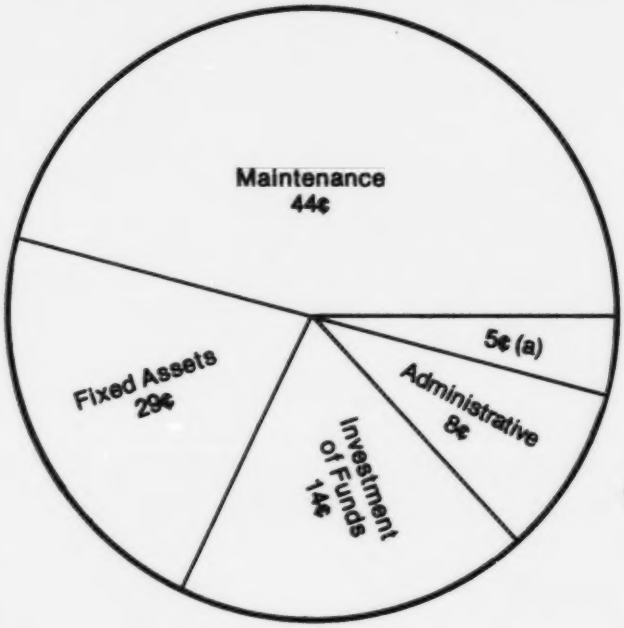
Certain comparative figures on schedules 5 and 7 have been reclassified to conform with the 1982 presentation.

THE NIAGARA PARKS COMMISSION

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1982

WHERE THE 1982 COMMISSION DOLLAR CAME FROM

WHERE THE 1982 COMMISSION DOLLAR WENT



(a) Advertising, Public Relations and General

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL